

FORM MR-RC
Revised May 28, 1993
RECLAMATION CONTRACT

File Number M/021/004

Effective Date 9/30/94

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of OIL, GAS and MINING
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
(801) 538-5340

MAR 7 1994

MAR 24 1994

RECLAMATION CONTRACT

---ooOoo---

For the purpose of this RECLAMATION CONTRACT the terms below are defined as follows:

"NOTICE OF INTENTION" (NOI): (File No.)
(Mineral Mined)

M/021/004

Silver

"MINE LOCATION":

(Name of Mine)
(Description)

Escalante Silver Mine

Sections 2, 3, 10, 11 T. 36S, R. 17W,

Iron County, Utah

Approximately 4 miles north of
Enterprise

"DISTURBED AREA":

(Disturbed Acres)
(Legal Description)

108

(refer to Attachment "A")

"OPERATOR":

(Company or Name)
(Address)

Hecla Mining Company

6500 Mineral Drive

Coeur d'Alene ID 83814

(Phone)

208/769-4100

"OPERATOR'S REGISTERED AGENT":

(Name)

(Address)

(Phone)

CT Corporation System

50 W Broadway

Salt Lake City UT 84101

801/531-7090

"OPERATOR'S OFFICER(S)":

Arthur Brown - President & CEO

Michael B. White - V.P. & Secretary

John P. Stilwell - Treasurer

"SURETY":

(Form of Surety - Attachment B)

Surety Bond

"SURETY COMPANY":

(Name, Policy or Acct. No.)

Aetna Casualty and Surety Company

"SURETY AMOUNT":

(Escalated Dollars)

\$389,300.00

"ESCALATION YEAR":

1999

"STATE":

State of Utah

"DIVISION":

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

"BOARD":

Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

ATTACHMENTS:

A "DISTURBED AREA":

B "SURETY":

This Reclamation Contract (hereinafter referred to as "Contract") is entered into between Hecla Mining Co. the "Operator" and the Utah State Board of Oil, Gas and Mining ("Board").

WHEREAS, Operator desires to conduct mining operations under Notice of Intention (NOI) File No. M/021/004 which has been approved by the Utah State Division of Oil, Gas and Mining "Division" under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act, Sections 40-8-1 et seq., Utah Code Annotated, (1953, as amended) (hereinafter referred to as "Act") and implementing rules; and

WHEREAS, Operator is obligated to reclaim that area described as the Disturbed Area as set forth and in accordance with Operator's approved Reclamation Plan, and Operator is obligated to provide surety in form and amount approved by the Board, to assure reclamation of the Disturbed Area.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and the Operator agree as follows:

1. Operator agrees to conduct reclamation of the Disturbed Area in accordance with the Act and implementing regulations, the original Notice of Intention dated 8/9/79, and the original Reclamation Plan dated 8/9/79. The Notice of Intention as amended, and the Reclamation Plan, as amended, are incorporated by this reference and made a part hereof.
2. Concurrent with the execution hereof, Operator has provided surety to assure that reclamation is conducted, in form and amount acceptable to the Board. Such surety as evidenced by the Surety Contract is in the form of the surety attached hereto as Attachment B and made a part hereof. The Surety Contract shall remain in full force and effect according to its terms unless modified by the Board in writing. If the Surety Contract expressly provides for cancellation, then, within 60 days following the Division's receipt of notice that the Surety Company intends to cancel the Surety Contract, the Operator shall provide a replacement Surety Contract in a form and amount reasonably acceptable to the Board. If the Operator fails to provide an acceptable replacement Surety Contract, the Division may order the Operator to cease further mining activities and to begin immediate reclamation of the Disturbed Area.
3. Operator agrees to pay legally determined public liability and property damage claims resulting from mining to the extent provided in Section 40-8-7(1)(e) of the Act.
4. Operator agrees to perform all duties and fulfill all reclamation requirements applicable to the mine as required by the Act and implementing rules, the Notice of Intention, as amended and the Reclamation Plan, as amended.
5. The Operator's liability under this Contract shall continue in full force and effect until the Division certifies that the Operator has reclaimed the Disturbed Area in accordance with the Act and implementing rules, the Notice of Intention, as amended and the Reclamation Plan, as amended.
6. If reclamation of discrete sections of the Disturbed Area is completed to the satisfaction of the Division, and the Division finds that such sections are severable from the remainder of the Disturbed Area, Operator may request the Division to certify that Operator has reclaimed such discrete sections of the Disturbed Area in accordance with the Act and Implementing rules, the Notice of Intention, as

amended and the Reclamation Plan, as amended. If the Division makes such certification, Operator may make request to the (Board) that the aggregate face amount of the Surety Contract provided pursuant to paragraph 2 be reduced to an amount necessary to provide for completion of the remaining reclamation. The (Board) shall hear Operator's request for such reduction in accordance with the Board's Procedural Rules concerning requests for Agency Action.

7. Operator agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State, Board and the Division from any claim, demand, liability, cost, charge, suit, or obligation of whatsoever nature arising from the failure of Operator or Operator's agents and employees, or contractors to comply with this Contract.
8. Operator may, at any time, submit a request to the Board to substitute surety. The Board, in its sole judgment and discretion, may approve such substitution if the substitute surety meets the requirements of the Act and the implementing rules.
9. This Contract shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah.
10. If Operator shall default in the performance of its obligations hereunder, Operator agrees to pay all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred by the Division and/or the Board in the enforcement of this Contract.
11. Any breach that the Division finds to be material of the provisions of this Contract by Operator may, at the discretion of the Division, result in an order to cease mining operations. After opportunity for notice and hearing, the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining may enter an order to revoke the Notice of Intention, order reclamation, or order forfeiture of the Surety Contract, or take such other action as is authorized by law.
12. In the event of forfeiture of the Surety Contract, Operator shall be liable for any additional costs in excess of the surety amount which are required to comply with this Contract. Any excess monies resulting from forfeiture of the Surety Contract, upon completion of reclamation and compliance with this Contract, shall be returned to the rightful claimant.
13. This Contract including the Notice of Intention, as amended and the Reclamation Plan, as amended, represents the entire agreement of the parties involved, and any modification must be approved in writing by the parties involved.

14. Each signatory below represents that he/she is authorized to execute this Contract on behalf of the named party.

Michael B. White
Vice President - General Counsel

Authorized Officer (Typed or Printed)

Michael B. White
Authorized Officer's Signature

March 21, 1994
Date

SO AGREED this 28th day of September, 1994.

AND APPROVED AS TO FORM AND AMOUNT OF SURETY:

BY Dave D. Lauriski
Dave D. Lauriski, Chairman
Utah State Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING:

By

James W. Carter, Director

Date

9/30/94

STATE OF

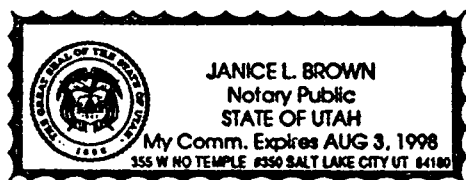
Utah

) ss:

COUNTY OF

Salt Lake

On the 30th day of September, 19 94, personally appeared before me, who being duly sworn did say that he/~~she~~, the said JAMES W. CARTER is the Director of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, Department of Natural Resources, State of Utah, and he/~~she~~ duly acknowledged to me that he/~~she~~ executed the foregoing document by authority of law on behalf of the State of Utah.



Janice L. Brown
Notary Public

Residing at:

Spauldy, Utah

August 3, 1998
My Commission Expires:

OPERATOR:

Hecla Mining Company
Operator Name

Michael B. White
By Vice President - General Counsel
Corporate Officer - Position

March 21, 1994
Date

Michael B. White
Signature

STATE OF IDAHO)
COUNTY OF Kootenai) ss:

On the 21st day of March, 19 94, personally
appeared before me Michael B. White who
being by me duly sworn did say that he/~~she~~, the said Michael B. White
is the Vice President - General Counsel of Hecla Mining Company
and duly acknowledged that said instrument was signed on behalf of said company
by authority of its bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and said
Michael B. White duly acknowledged to me that said
company executed the same.

Linda Rulener
Notary Public
Residing at: Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
My Commission Expires: 10/19/94

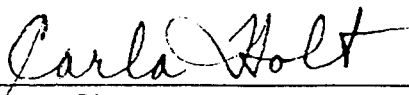
10/19/94
My Commission Expires:

SURETY:

AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANY
Surety Company

By CARLA HOLT - ATTORNEY IN FACT
Company Officer - Position

3/1/94
Date


Signature

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
COUNTY OF SPOKANE) ss:

On the 1st day of MARCH, 19 94, personally
appeared before me CARLA HOLT who
being by me duly sworn did say that he/she, the said CARLA HOLT
is the ATTORNEY IN FACT of AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANY
and duly acknowledged that said instrument was signed on behalf of said company
by authority of its bylaws or a resolution of its board of directors and said
CARLA HOLT duly acknowledged to me that said
company executed the same.


Notary Public RHONDA A. NELSON
Residing at: SPOKANE WASHINGTON

APRIL 27, 1997
My Commission Expires:

NOTE: An affidavit of Qualification must be completed and attached to this form for each authorized agent or officer. Where one signs by virtue of Power of Attorney for a company, such Power of Attorney must be filed with this Contract.



POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and having its principal office in the City of Hartford, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut, hath made, constituted and appointed, and does by these presents make, constitute and appoint

**CHARLES H. STEILEN, GEORGE C. SCHROEDER, LINDA TICHEY, CARLA HOLT
RHONDA A. NELSON, W. W. WELLER, JOANNE TONANI, LOIS STEWART ***

of **SPOKANE, WA**

, its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, execute and acknowledge, at any place within the United States, or, if the following line be filled in, within the area there designated, the following instrument(s):
by his/her sole signature and act, any and all bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking and any and all consents incidents thereto

and to bind THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, thereby as fully and to the same extent as if the same were signed by the duly authorized officers of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, and all the acts of said Attorney(s)-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This appointment is made under and by authority of the following Standing Resolutions of said Company, which Resolutions are now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, may from time to time appoint Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries, Attorneys-in-Fact, and Agents to act for and on behalf of the Company and may give any such appointee such authority as his certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors may at any time remove any such appointee and revoke the power and authority given him or her.

VOTED: That any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the President, an Executive Vice President, a Group Executive, a Senior Vice President, a Vice President, an Assistant Vice President or by a Resident Vice President, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Vice President, and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary or by a Resident Assistant Secretary, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Assistant Secretary; or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact pursuant to the power prescribed in his or their certificate or certificates of authority.

This Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following Standing Resolution voted by the Board of Directors of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY which Resolution is now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the signature of each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY has caused this instrument to be signed by its Assistant Vice President, and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed this 1st day of November, 19 93

State of Connecticut }
County of Hartford } ss. Hartford



THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

By George W. Thompson
Assistant Vice President

On this 1st day of November, 19 93, before me personally came GEORGE W. THOMPSON to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he/she is Assistant Vice President of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; and that he/she executed the said instrument on behalf of the corporation by authority of his/her office under the Standing Resolutions thereof.



Dorothy L. Marti

My commission expires August 31, 1998
Dorothy L. Marti

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a stock corporation of the State of Connecticut, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Standing Resolutions of the Board of Directors, as set forth in the Certificate of Authority, are now in force.

Signed and Sealed at the Home Office of the Company, in the City of Hartford, State of Connecticut. Dated this 1st day of MARCH, 19 94



By William T. DiRoberts
William T. DiRoberts
Secretary

ATTACHMENT "A"

Hecla Mining Company
Operator

Escalante Silver Mine
Mine Name

M/021/004
Permit Number

Iron County, Utah

The legal description of lands to be disturbed is:

PORTIONS OF THE SE 1/4 SE1/4 SECTION 3, NE 1/4 NE1/4 SECTION 10, SW1/4 SW 1/4 SECTION 2, NW 1/4 NW 1/4 SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 36 SOUTH, RANGE 17 WEST, SALT LAKE BASE MERIDIAN, IRON COUNTY, UTAH

ATTACHMENT B

MR FORM 6
Joint Agency Bonding Form

(April 8, 1993)

Bond Number [REDACTED]
Permit Number M/021/004
Mine Name Escalante Silver Mine

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
(801) 538-5340

THE MINED LAND RECLAMATION ACT

SURETY BOND

The undersigned Hecla Mining Company as Principal,
and Aetna Casualty and Surety Co. as Surety, hereby jointly and severally
bind ourselves, our heirs, administrators, executors, successors and assigns unto the State of
Utah, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and U.S. Department of the Interior, BLM
in the penal sum of Seven Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Dollars (\$ 771,000.00).

Principal has estimated in the Mining and Reclamation Plan approved by the
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining on the 14th day of March, 19 94, that 108
acres of land will be disturbed by this mining operation in the State of Utah.

A description of the disturbed land is attached as "Attachment A" to the
Reclamation Contract of which this document is an integral part.

The condition of this obligation is that if the Division determines that Principal has
satisfactorily reclaimed the disturbed lands in accordance with the approved Mining and
Reclamation Plan and has faithfully performed all requirements of the Mined Land Reclamation
Act, and complied with the Rules and Regulations adopted in accordance therewith, then this
obligation shall be void; otherwise it shall remain in full force and effect.

If the Mining and Reclamation Plan provides for periodic partial reclamation of the
disturbed lands, and if the lands are reclaimed in accordance with such Plan, Act and
regulations, then Principal may apply for a reduction in the amount of this Surety Bond.

In the converse, if the Mining and Reclamation Plan provides for a gradual increase in the area disturbed or the extent of disturbance, then, the Division may require that the amount of this Surety Bond be increased, with the written approval of the Surety.

This bond may be canceled by the Surety after ninety (90) days following receipt by the Division and Principal of written notice of such cancellation. Surety's liability shall then, at the expiration of said ninety (90) days, cease and terminate except that Surety will remain fully liable for all reclamation obligations of the Principal incurred prior to the date of termination.

Principal and Surety and their successors and assigns agree to guarantee said obligation and to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Division from any and all expenses (including attorney fees) which the Division may sustain in the collection of sums due hereunder.

Surety will give prompt notice to Principal and to the Division of the filing of any petition or the commencement of any proceeding relating to the bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, or adjustment of the debts of Surety, or alleging any violation or regulatory requirements which could result in suspension or revocation of the Surety's license to do business.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Principal and Surety hereunto set their signatures and seals as of the dates set forth below.

Date: 3/2/94

HECLA MINING COMPANY
Principal (Permittee)

By (Name typed): David F. Wolfe

Title: Assistant Treasurer

Signature: David F. Wolfe

Date: 3/1/94

AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANY
Surety

By: (Name Typed) CARLA HOLT

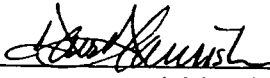
Title: ATTORNEY IN FACT

Signature: Carla Holt

Page 3
MR-6
Joint Agency Surety Bond
Attachment B

Bond Number _____
Permit Number M7021/004
Mine Name Escalante Silver Mine

SO AGREED this 28th day of September, 19 94.



Dave D. Lauriski, Chairman
Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

*NOTE: Where one signs by virtue of Power of Attorney for a Surety Company, such Power of Attorney must be filed with this bond. If the Principal is a corporation, the bond shall be executed by its duly authorized officer.

AFFIDAVIT OF QUALIFICATION

CARLA HOLT, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says that he/she is the (officer or agent) ATTORNEY IN FACT of said Surety, and that he/she is duly authorized to execute and deliver the foregoing obligations; that said Surety is authorized to execute the same and has complied in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to becoming sole surety upon bonds, undertakings and obligations.

Signed: *Carla Holt*
Surety Officer CARLA HOLT

Title: ATTORNEY IN FACT

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of MARCH, 1994.

Rhonda A Nelson
Notary Public RHONDA A. NELSON
Residing at: SPOKANE WASHINGTON

My Commission Expires:

APRIL 27, 1997.



POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and having its principal office in the City of Hartford, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut, hath made, constituted and appointed, and does by these presents make, constitute and appoint

**CHARLES H. STEILEN, GEORGE C. SCHROEDER, LINDA TICHEY, CARLA HOLT
RHONDA A. NELSON, W. W. WELLER, JOANNE TONANI, LOIS STEWART ***

of **SPOKANE, WA**, its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, execute and acknowledge, at any place within the United States, or, if the following line be filled in, within the area there designated, the following instrument(s):
by his/her sole signature and act, any and all bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking and any and all consents incidents thereto

and to bind THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, thereby as fully and to the same extent as if the same were signed by the duly authorized officers of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, and all the acts of said Attorney(s)-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This appointment is made under and by authority of the following Standing Resolutions of said Company, which Resolutions are now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, may from time to time appoint Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries, Attorneys-in-Fact, and Agents to act for and on behalf of the Company and may give any such appointee such authority as his certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors may at any time remove any such appointee and revoke the power and authority given him or her.

VOTED: That any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the President, an Executive Vice President, a Group Executive, a Senior Vice President, a Vice President, an Assistant Vice President or by a Resident Vice President, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Vice President, and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary or by a Resident Assistant Secretary, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Assistant Secretary; or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact pursuant to the power prescribed in his or their certificate or certificates of authority.

This Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following Standing Resolution voted by the Board of Directors of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY which Resolution is now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the signature of each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY has caused this instrument to be signed by its Assistant Vice President, and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed this 1st day of November, 19 93

State of Connecticut }
County of Hartford } ss. Hartford



THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

By George W. Thompson
George W. Thompson
Assistant Vice President

On this 1st day of November, 19 93, before me personally came GEORGE W. THOMPSON to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he/she is Assistant Vice President of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; and that he/she executed the said instrument on behalf of the corporation by authority of his/her office under the Standing Resolutions thereof.



Dorothy L. Marti

My commission expires August 31, 1998
Dorothy L. Marti

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a stock corporation of the State of Connecticut, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Standing Resolutions of the Board of Directors, as set forth in the Certificate of Authority, are now in force.

Signed and Sealed at the Home Office of the Company, in the City of Hartford, State of Connecticut. Dated this 1st day of MARCH, 19 94



By William T. DiRoberts
William T. DiRoberts
Secretary



DECREASE CERTIFICATE

THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Bond No. [REDACTED]

Amount of Bond \$ 771,000.00

Principal HECLA MINING COMPANY

Hereby decreased to \$ 389,300.00

Obligee STATE OF UTAH, DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING, AND
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BLM

As of the 30TH day of AUGUST, 19 94, the amount of the above described bond is hereby decreased from the sum of \$ 771,000.00 to the sum of \$ 389,300.00. The liability of the surety for any acts or defaults occurring after the effective date hereof, and for any acts or defaults occurring prior to the effective date hereof and not discovered within THIRTY (30) DAYS after the effective date hereof, shall in no event exceed the sum last named. The aggregate liability of the surety for any and all acts and defaults, whenever committed, shall in no event exceed the sum first named, it being the intent hereof to preclude cumulative liability. This certificate, when signed by the Obligee (Employer, or Insured) shall become part of the said bond.

Signed, sealed and dated this 8TH day of SEPTEMBER, 19 94.

THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

By

RHONDA A. NELSON

Attorney-in-Fact

This certificate was executed by the surety pursuant to my (our) request, and in consideration of a reduced premium I (we) hereby formally consent to the decrease.

Signed, sealed and dated this 13TH day of September, 19 94.

James L. Beaman
(Witness)

Attest

D. Wayne Seaberg

STATE OF UTAH,
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING, AND
U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, BLM (Seal)
(Obligee, Employer, or Insured)

By

James W. Carter, Div Oil, Gas & Mining

INSTRUCTIONS TO AGENTS-IMPORTANT

Do not deliver this certificate to the Obligee (Employer, or Insured) until that party has signed, sealed and dated it. In case of individual, schedule, or specific excess indemnity, execution on behalf of the Obligee (Employer, or Insured) by the person whose bond is being decreased is not acceptable.

One signed copy must be returned to the surety.

By

Alan Rabinoff
Acting Deputy State Director, Mineral Resources
Bureau of Land Management



POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and having its principal office in the City of Hartford, County of Hartford, State of Connecticut, hath made, constituted and appointed, and does by these presents make, constitute and appoint

**CHARLES H. STEILEN, GEORGE C. SCHROEDER, LINDA TICHEY, CARLA HOLT
RHONDA A. NELSON, W. W. WELLER, JOANNE TONANI, LOIS STEWART ***

of **SPOKANE, WA**, its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, with full power and authority hereby conferred to sign, execute and acknowledge, at any place within the United States, or, if the following line be filled in, within the area there designated, the following instrument(s):
by his/her sole signature and act, any and all bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking and any and all consents incidents thereto

and to bind THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, thereby as fully and to the same extent as if the same were signed by the duly authorized officers of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, and all the acts of said Attorney(s)-in-Fact, pursuant to the authority herein given, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This appointment is made under and by authority of the following Standing Resolutions of said Company, which Resolutions are now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, may from time to time appoint Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries, Attorneys-in-Fact, and Agents to act for and on behalf of the Company and may give any such appointee such authority as his certificate of authority may prescribe to sign with the Company's name and seal with the Company's seal bonds, recognizances, contracts of indemnity, and other writings obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking, and any of said officers or the Board of Directors may at any time remove any such appointee and revoke the power and authority given him or her.

VOTED: That any bond, recognizance, contract of indemnity, or writing obligatory in the nature of a bond, recognizance, or conditional undertaking shall be valid and binding upon the Company when (a) signed by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the President, an Executive Vice President, a Group Executive, a Senior Vice President, a Vice President, an Assistant Vice President or by a Resident Vice President, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Vice President, and duly attested and sealed with the Company's seal by a Secretary or Assistant Secretary or by a Resident Assistant Secretary, pursuant to the power prescribed in the certificate of authority of such Resident Assistant Secretary; or (b) duly executed (under seal, if required) by one or more Attorneys-in-Fact pursuant to the power prescribed in his or their certificate or certificates of authority.

This Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority is signed and sealed by facsimile under and by authority of the following Standing Resolution voted by the Board of Directors of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY which Resolution is now in full force and effect:

VOTED: That the signature of each of the following officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, President, Any Executive Vice President, Any Group Executive, Any Senior Vice President, Any Vice President, Any Assistant Vice President, Any Secretary, Any Assistant Secretary, and the seal of the Company may be affixed by facsimile to any power of attorney or to any certificate relating thereto appointing Resident Vice Presidents, Resident Assistant Secretaries or Attorneys-in-Fact for purposes only of executing and attesting bonds and undertakings and other writings obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such power of attorney or certificate bearing such facsimile signature or facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company and any such power so executed and certified by such facsimile signature and facsimile seal shall be valid and binding upon the Company in the future with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY has caused this instrument to be signed by its Assistant Vice President, and its corporate seal to be hereto affixed this 1st day of November, 19 93

State of Connecticut }
County of Hartford } ss. Hartford



THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

By George W. Thompson
George W. Thompson
Assistant Vice President

On this 1st day of November, 19 93, before me personally came GEORGE W. THOMPSON to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: that he/she is Assistant Vice President of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to the said instrument is such corporate seal; and that he/she executed the said instrument on behalf of the corporation by authority of his/her office under the Standing Resolutions thereof.



Dorothy L. Marti
My commission expires August 31, 1998 Notary Public
Dorothy L. Marti

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of THE AETNA CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY, a stock corporation of the State of Connecticut, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached Power of Attorney and Certificate of Authority remains in full force and has not been revoked; and furthermore, that the Standing Resolutions of the Board of Directors, as set forth in the Certificate of Authority, are now in force.

Signed and Sealed at the Home Office of the Company, in the City of Hartford, State of Connecticut. Dated this 8TH day of SEPTEMBER, 19 94



By William T. DiRoberts
William T. DiRoberts
Secretary